

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEGUCI 01692 082048 Z

63

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 RSR-01 /040 W

----- 007918

R 082005 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4309

INFO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

USCINCSO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEGUCIGALPA 1692

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, HO, US

SUBJECT: AIRFORCE MODERNIZATION

REF: CSAF 1716192 APRIL 73 AND PREVIOUS

1. AIR FORCE SURVEY TEAM, HEADED BY LT COL ROBERT DIAZ AND ACCOMPANIED BY COMUSMILGP AND AIR FORCE SECTION CHIEF, BRIEFED CHIEF OF STATE/ CHIEF OF ARMED FORCES GENERAL LOPEZ ARELLANO AND HIS IMMEDIATE STAFF ON " PROJECT JETHON" (HC AIR FORCE MODERNIZATION) ON MAY 7; THEY PRESENTED OFFER WITH ESTIMATED TOTAL COST OF \$5.1 MILLION, WHICH IS \$900,000 LESS THAN INITIAL ESTIMATE. GENERAL LOPEZ WAS VERY PLEASED WITH OVERALL PACKAGE AND, AFTER BRIEF PRIVATE CONSULTATION WITH STAFF, INFORMED TEAM THAT CERTAIN INTERNAL GOH DISCUSSIONS (MORE THAN LIKELY FULL DEFENSE COUNCIL) MUST TAKE PLACE PRIOR TO FINAL DECISION, BUT HE ASSURED THEM THAT DEFINITE REPOSE WOULD COME PRIOR TO OFFER' S EXPIRATION DATE OF 30 JUNE 1973.

2. COMUSMILGP, IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH CHIEF OF STAFF, FOUND LATTER OPTIMISTIC THAT OFFER WILL BE ACCEPTED PROMPTLY.

3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH TEAM HAD NO AUTHORITY DISCUSS FMS
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CREDIT, QUESTION OF CREDIT WAS RAISED BY GENERAL LOPEZ, WHO WAS AGAIN ADVISED THIS WAS SEPARATE ISSUE. OBTAINING SUCH CREDIT IS, OF COURSE, IMPORTANT TO LOPEZ IN VIEW OF GOH BUDGET RESTRAINTS, AND EMBSSY, IN CONJUNCTION WITH MILTP, WILL BEGIN ADVANCE PREPARATION OF NECESSARY DATA AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO BE SUBMITTED FOR WASHINGTON CONSIDERATION AS SOON AS GOH DECISION ON OFFER IS RENDERED.
RYAN

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL
@@@OASYS@@@<CONCATENATED>

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*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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30 JUN 2005

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